P24884.A01 (S 1045/US)

Appln. No. 10/773,284

<u>PATENT APPLICATION</u> IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants	:	Guillaume MATHIEU et al.) Grou	up Art Unit 3728	
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Docket No.	:	P24884)	mmer tvot Tet Idio	
Customer No.	:	7055)		
Filed	:	February 9, 2004)		
Title	:	BOTTOM ASSEMBLY FOR))		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR §1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for his or her consideration during the examination of the instant application.

The following documents were cited in a search report in the French priority application upon which the instant application is based. A copy of the search report and a copy of an annex thereto, indicating "family member" documents, are attached.

For compliance with the "concise explanation" requirement set forth in 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), consistent with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office policy, Applicants describe below any comments relating to pertinent portions of the respective documents, where such comments appear in the search report.

U.S. Patent No. 5,224,280 (PREMAN et al.), issued on July 6, 1993, is cited in the aforementioned search report as being a document that is particularly pertinent (i.e., a category "X" document) with regard to the invention recited in claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 8 of Applicants' aforementioned priority application. The entirety of US '280 is cited as being pertinent.

U.S. Patent No. 4,372,058 (STUBBLEFIELD), issued on February 8, 1983, is cited in the aforementioned search report as being a document that is particularly pertinent (*i.e.*, a category "X" document) with regard to the invention recited in claims 1, 3, and 5 of Applicants' aforementioned priority application. Column 4, line 44, to column 5, line 25, and Figs. 3, 8, and 9 of US '058 are cited as being pertinent.

German Patent No. 101 07 824 (WOLTER), granted on January 2, 2003, is cited in the aforementioned search report as being a document that is pertinent to the general state of the art (i.e., a category "A" document) with regard to the invention recited in claim 1 of Applicants' aforementioned priority application. Paragraphs 0061, 0062, and Fig. 9 of DE '824 are cited as being pertinent. An English language abstract, downloaded from esp@cenet, is attached.

- U.S. Patent No. 4,342,158 (McMAHON et al.), issued on August 3, 1982, is cited in the aforementioned search report as being a document that is pertinent to the general state of the art (i.e., a category "A" document) with regard to the invention recited in claims 1 and 2 of Applicants' aforementioned priority application. Column 10, lines 22-26, and Fig. 3; and column 12, line 64, to column 13, line 37 of US '158 are cited as being pertinent.
- U.S. Patent No. 4,322,895 (HOCKERSON), issued on April 6, 1982, is cited in the aforementioned search report as being a document that is pertinent to the general state of the art (i.e., a category "A" document) with regard to the invention recited in claim 1 of Applicants' aforementioned priority application. The entirety of US '895 is cited as being pertinent. In addition, US '895 is mentioned in paragraph 0008 of the specification of the instant application.

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A copy of DE '824 is attached. If the Examiner would additionally benefit from copies of the US patents, Applicants will gladly file same upon request. Further, each document is listed on the attached PTO-1449 form to permit the Examiner to indicate his or her consideration thereof.

The Examiner is requested to consider the documents cited above and to confirm such consideration by appropriately initialling the listings on the PTO-1449 form and returning a copy of the initialled form to Applicants.

Any comments or questions concerning this application can be directed to the undersigned at the telephone or fax number given below.

Respectfully submitted, Guillaume MATHIEU et al.

fames L. Rowland Reg. No. 32,674

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703-716-1191 (telephone) 703-716-1180 (fax)

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U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Atty. Docket No. P24884 Application No. 10/773,284

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicants Guillaume MATHIEU et al.

Filing Date February 9, 2004 Group Art Unit 3728

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER				DATE NAME		CLASS SUBCLASS		FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE					
		4	3	2	2	8	9	5	4-1982	HOCKERSON	36	129		
		4	3	4	2	1	5	8	8-1982	McMAHON et al.	36	35 R		
		4	3	7	2	0	5	8	2-1983	STUBBLEFIELD	36	32 R		
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.